

Pioneer Thinclads Give Up Loop Title By Slender Margin

TEAM POINT CHART

Sexton	71½	Battle Creek	44
ANN ARBOR	69½	Eastern	38½
Kalamazoo	55½	Jackson	32

By Dave Tefft

Ann Arbor High thinclads, having failed in a "long-way-around" effort to retain their Six-A League track championship, turned in uniforms today and closed the book on a season highly successful despite Saturday's title defeat in Lansing.

The Pioneers missed by a meager two and a fraction points as pre-meet Favorite Lansing Sexton claimed the cinder crown and it seems possible ground lost because of a misunderstanding in the second running event of the finals may have turned things in the Big Reds' favor.

Because of injury to another runner, Ann Arbor's versatile Willie Hieligh was asked to handle the second leg of the medley-relay race, an event worth double points toward the team crown. Willing but unfamiliar with procedure, Hieligh misunderstood Starter Lynn Adams' instructions and believed he had to run in the lane in which he started throughout his 220-yard sprint. The speedy Pioneer, stuck in a middle alley, thus went a good many extra yards as he sped around the curve and the Ann Arbor medleyists finished fifth, picking up two team points. Had Hieligh taken the short route, the Pioneers very likely

would have finished a notch higher and might even have beaten out third-place Sexton for a six-point swing.

Conjecture wins no track meets, however, so Russ Maples' balanced Sextonites, who scored in all events save the pole vault, today are guarding the well-earned track plaque following a victory which also sews up for the Lansing Reds at least a share of the cherished Six-A All-Sports Trophy.

And — along with Ann Arbor — Battle Creek's Bearcats and Jackson's Vikings had reason for "might-have-been" thinking. Battle Creek, despite winning four individual events, finished fourth as Quarter-Miler Joe Bass, seemingly a clear winner, fell yards from the finish line and gained no 440 points after which the Bearcat 880-yard relay team failed to finish when Jeff Nelson went down (and temporarily "out") 100 yards into the second leg. Jackson, almost a sure bet for second place in this event, lost the points which might have pulled the Vikings into fifth in the team standings when its 880 team was disqualified, Bob Thompson being charged with causing the Battle Creek runner's fall.

Limber-limbed Jesse Campbell accounted for Ann Arbor High's only individual titles, taking the high jump and the 120-yard high hurdles to share double-victory honors with Battle Creek's flashy sophomore speedster, Jim Burise. The latter forced Pioneer Dempsey Taylor to runnerup finishes in both dashes and was pushed to league-record time in the furlong.

Campbell finished second to the meet's other record-maker, Jackson's Buck Barham, in the 180-yard low hurdles while the Pioneers also benefited from Carl Allen's runnerup finish to Sexton's promising Mac Poll in the mile and from Dennis Johnson's second to Eastern's George Oxendale in the 880.

Ann Arbor and Sexton were deadlocked with 59½ points each going into the meet-ending half-mile relay. Sexton's sprinters rolled in ahead of the pack in this mishap-marred event to finish off one of the Big Reds' finest sports years in true championship style.

Pioneer Hieligh, incidentally, more than made up for his understandable medley-relay error as he tied for second in the high jump, placed fifth in the broad jump, and helped in the runnerup finish in the 880 relay. Other Ann Arbor High point makers were Aksi Kikut, Wayne Myers, Kirk Jackson, Brian Westfield, Odis Askew, and Mike Levin.

SHOT PUT: 1—Emerson Bales (LS); 2—Walker (K); 3—Johnson (LS); 4—AKSI KIKUT (AA); 5—Lacey (BC); 6—WAYNE MYERS (AA). Distance—33 feet 2 inches.

BROAD JUMP: 1—Jeff Nelson (BC); 2—Williams (K); 3—Pruitt (LS); 4—Bass (BC); 5—WILLIE HIELIGH (AA); 6—KIRK JACKSON (AA). Distance—21 feet 4 inches.

120-YARD HIGH HURDLES: 1—JESSE CAMPBELL (AA); 2—Lawrence (K); 3—Rains (LS); 4—Barham (J); 5—Hopkins (LS); 6—Stuber (LE). Time—:15.2.

THREE-FOURTHS-MILE MEDLEY RELAY: 1—Kalamazoo (Bob Gardner, Dick Gulbis, Herb Holmes, Paul Wilson); 2—Eastern; 3—Sexton; 4—Battle Creek; 5—ANN ARBOR; 6—Jackson. Time—2:31.6.

100-YARD DASH: 1—Jim Burise (BC); 2—DEMPSEY TAYLOR (AA); 3—Thompson (K); 4—Pruitt (LS); 5—Allen (LS); 6—Kowalske (LS). Time—:10.2.

440-YARD DASH: 1—Todd Elliott (J); 2—Snell (LS); 3—Treelink (J); 4—Riggle (LE); 5—Patterson (LS); 6—Crowley (LE). Time—:51.8.

220-YARD DASH: 1—Jim Burise (BC); 2—DEMPSEY TAYLOR (AA); 3—Pruitt (LS); 4—Allen (LS); 5—Thompson (K); 6—McGowan (LE). Time—:21.7 (new league record; old record—:21.9, set by Ron Berry, Battle Creek, in 1951, equaled by Phil Beck, Jackson, in 1957).

180-YARD LOW HURDLES: 1—Buck Barham (J); 2—JESSE CAMPBELL (AA); 3—Lawrence (K); 4—BRIAN WESTFIELD (AA); 5—Gulbis (K); 6—Ford (LS). Time—:19.8 (new league record; old record—:19.8, set by Jim Love, Ann Arbor, in 1951).

MILE RUN: 1—Mac Poll (LS); 2—CARL ALLEN (AA); 3—ODIS ASKEW (AA); 4—Johnson (J); 5—Hall (LE); 6—Stevens (K). Time—4:29.4 (equals league record set by Jim Arnold, Battle Creek, in 1951).

HIGH JUMP: 1—JESSE CAMPBELL (AA); 2—He among WILLIE HIELIGH (AA), Nelson (BC), Burton (J), and Worthy (K); 3—He between Rains (LS) and Burch (BC). Height—4 feet 1½ inches (equals league record set by Joe Thompson, Sexton, in 1956).

880-YARD RUN: 1—George Oxendale (LE); 2—DENNIS JOHNSON (AA); 3—Spackman (LS); 4—Pountain (K); 5—Kyburz (LE); 6—MIKE LEVIN (AA). Time—:7:05.

880-YARD RELAY: 1—Lansing Sexton (Dick Allen, Rick Kowalske, Bob Thompson, Bill Pruitt); 2—ANN ARBOR; 3—Kalamazoo; 4—Eastern; no fifth and sixth places. Time—1:31.8.

POLE VAULT: 1—He between John Best (BC) and Roy Belles (BC); 2—He between Hopper (LE) and Williams (J); 3—He among Dickey (LE), Laver (J), Crockett (K). Height—12 feet.